



# Pennsylvania Forest Resource Fact Sheet 2020

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## Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$1,893,370
Cooperative Forestry	\$728,560
Forest Health Management	\$607,140
Forest Legacy and Community Forestry	\$16,040
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,245,110</b>

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

## Key Issues

- Land Use: Forest loss and gain, urbanization, conservation, fragmentation, and urbanization.
- Forest Health: Forest insects and diseases, invasive plants, inadequate forest regeneration, and over-abundant deer populations.
- Forest Management: Ownerships, unsustainable timber harvesting, certification systems, marketing of forest products and services, carbon markets, biomass, community forest management, water, and monitoring conditions.
- Climate change.
- Communicating natural resource values.
- Energy Development: Rights-of-way, Marcellus shale, wind energy, and biomass energy.
- Wildland fire and public safety.
- Plant and wildlife habitat.
- Recreation and quality of life.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	12,702,379	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	26,362
Acres of Forest Land	16,753,784	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	3,431
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	11,505,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	2,456
Number of NIPF Landowners	497,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	145
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	355
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	17,000,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	2,538
Number of Rural Fire Departments	2,650	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	1,015	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	429
Forest Based Employment	72,173	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	7,132,359
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	2	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	25,278
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	32,990,000		

## Program Highlights

### Cooperative Fire Protection

Pennsylvania was awarded one competitive State Fire Assistance grant to support the Wardens Helping in Prevention program by providing prevention and education materials. Pennsylvania acquired \$2,405,243 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and \$63,013 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property is used to support the state's and volunteer fire departments' wildland fire programs. Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Forest Service, all mid-Atlantic states, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked together to open the Mid-Atlantic Coordination Center in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to improve the mobilization of wildfire suppression resources.

### Forest Health Protection

Spotted lanternfly is a new invasive insect found in Berks County in 2014. While it feeds on tree of heaven during its life cycle, in North America it also feeds on a variety of plants and trees, including wine grapes, wild grapes, sweet birch, big-tooth aspen, and black walnut. There is currently a 14-county quarantine for spotted lanternfly in the state. Beech leaf disease has been confirmed in 12 counties in Pennsylvania, with McKean, Forest, Venango, Beaver, and Allegheny Counties all added in 2019.

**Forest Stewardship**

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry, provided technical assistance to 1,862 landowners and municipalities. The Bureau is a close partner with Penn State University Extension in offering information about management of woodlands. An example of this collaboration is the 2019 Forest Landowner Conference hosted by the Center for Private Forests at Penn State. This event was attended by 625 landowners and natural resource professionals and featured 100 presentations, exhibits, field tours, workshops, keynotes, and valuable connection and conversation opportunities. Participants agreed that this is one of the premier events for forest landowners in the Northeast. The Bureau also gave over 400 different presentations to school students, woodland owner groups, and conferences.

**Urban and Community Forestry**

Pennsylvania served 476 communities (6,401,106 residents) through its TreeVitalize program. Approximately \$320,000 in grants was given to communities and NGOs to plant street trees, park trees, and urban riparian buffers; to improve existing tree canopy through training of citizens and municipal workers and through best practices; to work on planning and inventories; and to pursue other community forestry projects. The state's prison inmate arboricultural training program was so successful that it was expanded to include training for inmates related to riparian buffer maintenance. Several recently released re-entrants have found employment in the arboricultural field.



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